

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

JANUARY 12, 2005

PRESENT: Rick Cleary, Laura Sherman, John Luginbuhl, and Anna Sanko

ABSENT: Eric Santini, Tim Olmsted and Alternate Kelly Peck

STAFF

PRESENT: Reanna Goodreau, Recording Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Cleary called the Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 7:13 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

First Selectman Dennis Milanovich stated that he had read the minutes from the December meeting and decided to attend this meeting. Chairman Cleary noted that the commission simply wanted to be kept informed about issues that relate to the EDC from CEDS and LULA. The First Selectman and the members discussed the various initiatives that Mr. Milanovich is involved with. They discussed CEDS, LULA, farming legislation and initiatives, the Pinney House and firehouse, and the build out report.

Mr. Milanovich noted that the top priority of his administration is the implementation of the Build Out Report recommendations. He noted that funding is essential and that there is nothing more important than the implementation of the recommendations of the report.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

MOVED (LUGINBUHL), SECONDED (SHERMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD TO THE AGENDA "BUDGET PREPARATIONS" UNDER NEW BUSINESS AND FOLLOWING ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

1. Election of Officers

MOVED (LUGINBUHL), SECONDED (SHERMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT RICK CLEARY AS CHAIR.

MOVED (SANKO), SECONDED (CLEARY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT LAURA SHERMAN AS VICE CHAIR.

2. Budget Preparations

The commission reviewed the approved fiscal year 2004-2005 budget. Based on that review, they decided to take the \$200 from travel and \$1,500 from dues and subscriptions and add it to advertising, printing, and forms. Therefore, the budget would consist of \$3,200 in advertising, printing, and forms, \$3,000 in dues and subscriptions, \$250 in postage, and \$250 in education for the fiscal year 2005-2006 budget.

MOVED (SHERMAN), SECONDED (LUGINBUHL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE FY 2005-06 BUDGET AS DISCUSSED.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Business Survey—Update

The commission reviewed the final draft of the business survey prepared by Darlene Susco. The commission made minor changes to the document and requested that it be sent out as soon as possible.

MOVED (SANKO), SECONDED (LUGINBUHL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE BUSINESS SURVEY AS PREPARED AND WITH THE MINOR CHANGES AS DISCUSSED.

2. CEDAS: Camera Friendly Communities—Presentation by Anna Sanko and Laura Sherman

Commissioner Sherman explained that she had compiled a list of information that would be relevant to those interested in using Ellington in a “camera community.”

3. Tax Abatement Policies/Procedures—Update

Chairman Cleary noted that in order to move forward with the revisions for the tax abatement form, information from the Town Attorney was needed.

4. Farm Initiatives—Update

Chairman Cleary noted that the First Selectman would be speaking to Mr. Cohen in order to obtain the information for a comprehensive list of farmers and their products.

5. Discussion regarding the Build-Out Report and its impact on the Updating of the Plan of Conservation and Development/Regulation Amendments

Chairman Cleary requested that the members be prepared to discuss the economic development portion of the Plan of Conservation and Development at the next meeting. He noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission are reviewing the Plan and he believes it is important for the EDC to have input in the section of the Plan that involves their commission.

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION DECIDED THIS ITEM WAS A PRIORITY AND WANTED THIS ITEM FOR REVIEW AND DISCUSSION AT THE FEBRUARY 16, 2005 MEETING.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the December 15, 2004 Meeting Minutes

MOVED (SHERMAN), SECONDED (LUGINBUHL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 15, 2004 MEETING MINUTES.

2. Correspondence:
 - a. Letter to George Vartanian from Dennis Milanovich, dated 12/16/04
 - b. Memo to PZC from Matt Davis, dated 12/17/04
 - c. Memo to Land Use Commissions from Matt Davis, dated 12/21/04
 - d. Memo to Dennis Milanovich from EDC, dated 12/29/04

SO NOTED.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (LUGINBUHL) SECONDED (SANKO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Reanna Goodreau
Recording Secretary